



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Weekly Weather Crop Report



National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week ending September 21, 2008

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 5.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, September 21, 2008**. Less rainfall and more sunshine over the past week has propelled harvesting activities for some, but continued rainfall in certain areas of the state has delayed harvest and has some producers concerned about the quality of the crops. There are scattered reports of boll rot and hard lock bolls in cotton and seed rot in soybeans. Soil moisture was rated 3 percent short, 70 percent adequate and 27 percent surplus.

Crop progress for week ending 09/21/08

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, mature	100	98	100	100
Corn, harvested	77	62	95	94
Corn Silage, harvested	97	92	100	100
Cotton, open bolls	79	58	94	90
Cotton, harvested	2	0	26	21
Hay-Warm Season, harvested	92	87	94	94
Peanuts, harvested	6	4	22	--
Rice, headed	100	99	100	100
Rice, mature	92	85	100	95
Rice, harvested	40	20	83	68
Sorghum, coloring	100	99	100	100
Sorghum, mature	94	87	100	100
Sorghum, harvested	67	53	95	96
Sorghum, silage harvested	92	84	--	--
Soybeans, turning color	81	76	97	97
Soybeans, dropping leaves	62	51	89	89
Soybeans, harvested	30	18	55	69
Sweet Potatoes, harvested	25	5	42	36

Crop condition for week ending 09/21/08

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	9	16	20	39	16
Cotton	7	11	24	42	16
Hay	2	6	33	35	24
Livestock	2	6	31	47	14
Pasture	2	5	32	48	13
Peanuts	20	0	10	50	20
Rice	0	4	12	50	34
Sorghum	1	4	17	54	24
Soybeans	7	13	31	36	13
Sweet Potatoes	0	5	13	72	10

Comments

“Beans are rotting in most fields in the very top. A few fields have rotted top to bottom. Dry weather has slowed it down. If the beans will hurry up and dry down, we can get them out!”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Ike moved out of the southeast leaving smaller amounts of rain than expected. Hay harvesting continued early in the week. Producers are preparing to plant ryegrass, clover, and fescue.”

— Mike Howell, Lee

“Although continued rains have slowed harvest activities, corn harvest is nearing the finish line, soybean and rice harvest is going well, and significant cotton acreage was defoliated this past week. Approximately 6 weeks of wet weather has taken its toll on the quality of the crops. Cotton yields will be reduced significantly due to boll rot and hard lock bolls, and dockage on soybeans due to seed rot has ranged from 5% to over 50%.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“After a short reprieve when most people were able to resume harvesting, we've received another 1 to 2 inches of rain. This has effectively shut us down again, prolonged the harvest, and allowed quality to decline further.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Cooler night-time temperatures have really slowed the growth of summer forages. After we dry out some, many cattle producers will start planting winter forages. Hunting enthusiasts are going wide open with planting their winter food plots.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“We had drier field conditions this week. Harvest has been going good.”

— Laura Giaccaglia, Bolivar

“Growers enjoyed a good week of harvest and we missed the showers this weekend.”

— Don Respass, Coahoma

“We had several rainy days last week. Producers are preparing to harvest corn and soybeans.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Corn and soybean harvest operations were initiated, but were delayed late in the week by rainfall. Some insect populations are exceeding threshold levels in late soybeans.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Grain harvest has been taking place on wet soils. We need 3 good dry weeks to complete grain harvest. Soybean loopers and stinkbugs are being sprayed in late maturing soybeans.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Well, we finally went a week without a storm. We are back in the fields. We are trying to complete the corn harvest, but it is a chore with the stalks horizontal on the ground. Harvest is slow. Checking the cotton will set you back. This year’s crop in many areas doesn’t look good. There are terrible amounts of boll rot. Harvest will show the total loss for this year. The losses attributed to the series of storms and late season rains will be high. We have harvested some of the soybean crop, and at this point most of the fields harvested look okay! There is damage and it will show up as the harvest continues.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“We received about 2 inches of rain late last week. We need a good week of dry conditions to get corn and hay harvested.”

— Chuck Grantham, Forrest

Mississippi Weather Summary for Week Ending 09/21/08													
Division/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Plan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
Upper Delta													
Cleveland	86	56	71	75	-4	0.03	-0.74	2	5.81				
Lambert	86	54	70			0.00	-0.77	0	4.31				
Tunica	84	53	67	73	-6	0.34	-0.29	2	5.30				
Extreme/Average	86	53	69	74	-5	0.12	0.60	1	5.14				
North-Central													
Calhoun City	82	56	69	73	-4	1.28	0.44	3	4.83				
Hickory Flat	85	53	67	71	-4	1.19	0.27	3	3.02				
Independence	83	53	66	72	-6	0.64	-0.20	2	5.58				
Oxford	84	53	67	72	-5	0.92	0.04	3	3.53				
Extreme/Average	85	53	67	72	-5	1.01	0.14	3	4.24				
Northeast													
Pontotoc	81	55	67	73	-6	0.08	-0.09	1	4.94				
Ripley	81	53	67	71	-4	0.94	0.03	2	1.97				
Tupelo	82	56	69			0.34	0.00	2	3.29				
Verona	85	56	69	73	-4	1.89	0.91	2	6.74				
Extreme/Average	85	53	68	72	-4	0.81	0.01	2	4.24				
Lower Delta													
Moorhead	86	55	70	75	-5	0.05	-0.79	3	5.66				
Rolling Fork	84	56	71	75	-4	1.20	0.50	2	13.12				
Stoneville	85	56	71	74	-3	0.05	-0.75	1	12.36				
Yazoo City	83	56	69	76	-7	0.14	-0.52	3	5.98				
Extreme/Average	86	55	70	75	-5	0.36	-0.39	2	9.28				
Central													
Canton	86	54	69	75	-6	2.05	1.35	2	8.20				
Eupora	81	55	68	72	-4	2.06	1.15	2	5.40				
Kosciusko													
Winona	80	55	69	71	-2	2.02	1.13	2	8.62				
Extreme/Average	86	54	69	73	-4	1.90	1.07	2	7.63				
East-Central													
Aberdeen	82	59	70	73	-3	1.77	0.86	2	5.89				
Macon	91	58	73	74	-1	2.23	1.39	2	3.93				
Philadelphia	88	57	73	74	-1	0.67	-0.10	2	8.32				
State University	84	55	69	74	-5	3.95	3.11	2	8.38				
Extreme/Average	91	55	71	74	-3	2.16	1.32	2	6.63				
Southwest													
Crystal Springs	89	56	71	75	-4	1.40	0.35	2	9.15				
Natchez	84	56	70	76	-6	1.07	0.23	1	8.07				
Oakley	90	51	71	75	-4	0.41	-0.29	1	12.44				
Vicksburg	84	56	70			1.34	0.00	1	13.90				
Extreme/Average	90	51	71	75	-4	1.06	0.10	1	10.89				
South-Central													
Collins	87	56	70	75	-5	0.50	-0.48	3	6.50				
Columbia	90	58	73	76	-3	1.58	0.60	3	8.54				
Tylertown	87	48	72	76	-4	3.30	2.37	2	4.13				
Monticello	91	57	73	75	-2	1.16	0.28	1	6.69				
Extreme/Average	91	48	72	76	-4	1.64	0.69	2	6.47				
Southeast													
Hattiesburg	87	59	72	77	-5	0.03	-0.97	1	7.49				
Laurel	88	57	72	75	-3	0.49	-0.54	3	9.47				
Newton	88	54	70	74	-4	1.87	1.03	3	7.11				
Waynesboro	92	59	74	74	0	0.76	-0.34	3	9.27				
Extreme/Average	92	54	72	75	-3	0.79	-0.21	3	8.34				
Coastal													
Extreme/Average						0.00	0.00	0	0.00				
State	92	48	70	74	-4	1.09	0.24	2	6.98				

DFN = Departure from Normal.